

Gallaudet Fact—

Q. *The Buff and Blue* carries a special distinction among student newspapers. What is it?

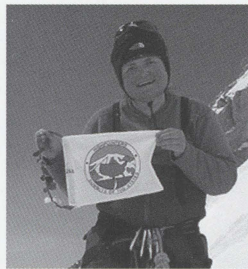
- A. First student newspaper to intersperse photographs with text.
- B. Only student newspaper to use recycled bamboo newsprint
- C. Longest continually published student newspaper

Answer on page 4.

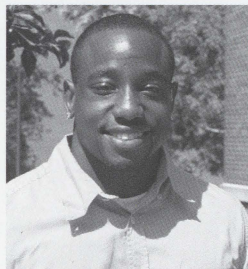


Arica Jones, a rising senior at the California School for the Deaf, Fremont, presents a piece of artwork she created during the Be What You Are program on July 3. Be What You Are was designed to offer opportunities for creative self-discovery and expression to deaf and hard of hearing high school students of color through classes and activities led by artists of color. Over four days, these students explored their own life stories through poetry, visual art, drama, and dance. The program, which was offered through the Gallaudet Leadership Institute, Professional Studies, and Enrichment Programs unit of the College of Professional Studies and Outreach, was hosted on the Gallaudet campus. Fred Beam, a Gallaudet alumnus and executive director and president of the Invisible Hands performance company, handled the program content. Jones' performance was part of the program's concluding showcase.

IN THIS ISSUE



Mountain climber Miriam Richards, a graduate from the Department of Physical Education and Recreation, visited Gallaudet to share her adventures.



Roving Reporter

"I don't even want to think about prices increasing," says Martelle Washington about the increasing cost of gasoline.



Academic Technology staff congratulate co-workers on their service milestones.



MSSD and Indiana School for the Deaf students and teachers gather with residents of Daveyton Township in Johannesburg, South Africa.

ON THE GREEN

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Victories in the Big Easy

For the third time in a row, Gallaudet has won bragging rights by taking first place in the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) College Bowl. The 11th competition was held on July 9 in New Orleans, La., as part of the 49th Biennial NAD Conference. The other competing teams came from the California State University at Northridge (CSUN) and the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at the Rochester Institute of Technology (NTID).

In the Miss Deaf America competition held July 10 at the conference, Gallaudet student Michelle Lapides of Maryland won the 2008-2010 title. She will proudly wear the tiara as she journeys across the country on behalf of the NAD to inspire young deaf leaders. The first runner-up was Katherine Murich, Miss Deaf Texas, and the second runner-up was JoAnn Benfield, Miss Deaf Missouri. The platform presentations for all of the six finalists covered deaf education; each contestant provided her thoughts on the current system

and offered ideas on how to tackle problems.

At the College Bowl competition, Bison team members Jonathan Chanin, Tyler DeShaw, Meredith Peruzzi, and David Uzzell gained an early lead in the three-round competition and never let go. The final score was Gallaudet-127, NTID-79, and CSUN-76.

While NTID and CSUN were cheered on by enthusiastic fans, the game had a particularly strong Gallaudet presence. Alumna Jackie Roth emceed the evening, and alumni Robert Weinstock and Pia Marie Paulone served as Gallaudet's coaches. According to Board of Trustees member Cheryl Heppner, reporting from the scene, the Mighty Bison showed their appreciation to Weinstock with a shower of Gatorade.

Meredith Peruzzi, one of the members of the College Bowl team, blogged about her NAD experiences at gallaudetblog.wordpress.com/2008/07 and the NAD blog (blogs.nad.org/NADConference) offered more about the event. ■

Academic Affairs realignment announced

(The following is from an email to the campus community)

July 16, 2008

To: Gallaudet University Community

From: Dr. Stephen F. Weiner, Provost

Re: Academic Affairs Realignment

This month, I begin my second year as Provost. The first year was a momentous one. In Academic Affairs, we raised our admissions standards, designed and implemented our General Studies curriculum, put into place assessment and institutional research programs, and worked tirelessly to reaffirm our accreditation. I am grateful to each of you for your hard work, collegiality, and support in achieving so much in such a short time.

Over the last year, I have studied the structure of the Division of Academic Affairs. In consultation with members of the Academic Affairs Management Team and a representative of the University Faculty, I am making several structural and administrative changes. Some of these changes are being announced today; others will be announced in the next two weeks.

Dr. Catherine F. Andersen has served for the last year as Interim Dean of Enrollment Management and General Studies. She is now Associate Provost, responsible for enrollment management university-wide.

Effective immediately, the Program of General Studies is being placed administratively under the Office of the Provost, reporting to me. I am taking this interim step to sustain and promote the viability of the program as it enters its second full year. Professor Kathryn Baldrige, program director, and I will work with deans to identify teaching faculty for General Studies integrated courses. The First Year Experience program will report to Associate Provost Andersen.

The Center for Academic Programs and Student Services has been disbanded. The Career Center and the Office for Students With Disabilities will move administratively to Student Affairs. Academic Advising, Tutorial and Instructional Programs, and the Honors Program will move to the College of Liberal Arts, Sciences, and Technologies. The Mentoring Program will move to the new Office of Student Equity. Finally, the English Language Institute will move to the College of Professional Studies and Outreach. Mr. Edgar B. Palmer, formerly Associate Dean of the Center for Academic Programs and Student Services, will become Associate Dean for Faculty and Staff Professional Development.

A. Dwight Benedict, Executive Director of Student Affairs, is now Dean of Student Affairs. This title change reflects his increased responsibilities. Dean Benedict will announce to the university community several structural and personnel changes within Student Affairs later this week.

Following up on the phenomenally successful Academic Quality and Accreditation Committee work of this past year, I have created a new Office of Academic Quality. Dr. Patricia L. Hulsebosch will serve as Executive Director of this new office. The directors of the Office of Assessment and the Office of Institutional Research will report to Dr. Hulsebosch.

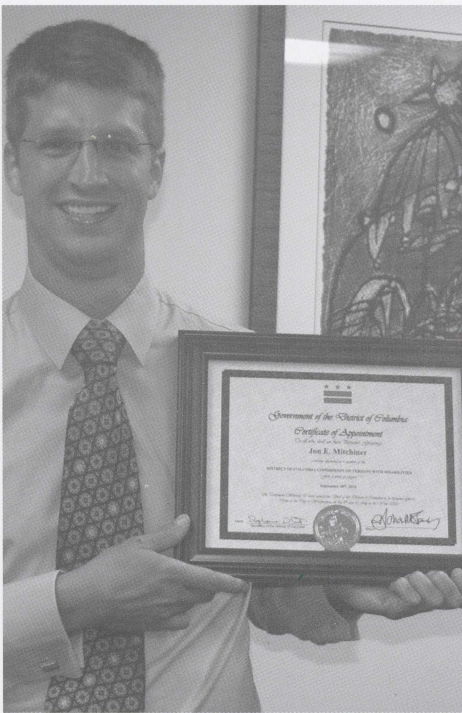
These changes will require a great deal of coordination and cooperation. No physical moves are taking place at this time, but there will be some physical moves in concert with the relocation of academic departments and units to the James Lee Sorenson Language and Communication Center.

Administratively, Dr. Cynthia King, Dean of ATLAS, is coordinating all physical moves. Dr. Michael Moore, Academic Affairs Budget Director, will handle budget changes. Ms. Rebecca Hogan, Director of Academic Affairs Personnel, will coordinate personnel transfers.

I want to assure Academic Affairs administrative support staff that no one will lose their positions. There may be some lateral reassignments, and there may be opportunities for advancement as well. Please know that your support is critical and is greatly appreciated.

I look forward to the new academic year with each and every one of you in Academic Affairs. ■

Head of ITS appointed to D.C. commission



Jon Mitchiner, director of ITS, displays his certificate of appointment to the D.C. Commission on Persons with Disabilities.

2004, he said, he has looked for ways to have a positive impact on the lives of fellow residents. "I have been working with the D.C. government in the past year to improve interpreting services for deaf people using government agencies," he explained. "D.C. has recently approved a central interpreting budget to cover interpreting services, and either the agency or the deaf individual can contact a central office to request a sign language interpreter." Mitchiner is pleased with this success, and looks forward to being a part of continued improvement.

The commission, according to its call for potential members, is "committed to enhancing the image, status, inclusion, and quality of life for all District of Columbia residents, visitors, and employees with disabilities, and to ensure that they have the same rights and opportunities as those without disabilities." To accomplish this, the appointees will advise the district on services, facilities, and activities involving residents with disabilities. They will also advocate for

inclusive community practices and smooth service delivery.

"I think it is an honor for Jon, and a smart move for the District of Columbia," said Vice President of Administration and Finance Paul Kelly, who oversees Mitchiner's unit. "The District and residents with disabilities will benefit from Jon's insights."

Kelly pointed to Mitchiner's experience of putting insights into action as an advocate for deaf residents of D.C. as well as his work to develop Gallaudet's Emergency Notification System—a visual, electronic method of delivering urgent messages to the campus community.

Mitchiner's term on the 12-member commission will be for two years. Mitchiner is ready to tackle one of the first orders of business by helping to plan a conference on disability slated for October. ■

Call for nominations for honorary degree and professor, dean emeritus awards

(Note: The following information was excerpted from a July 18 email to the campus community by Provost Stephen Weiner.)

... On behalf of the Honorary Degree Committee, the Office of the Provost is soliciting your nominations for individuals to be considered for an honorary degree, professor emeritus, and/or dean emeritus status at the May 2009 Commencement.

In awarding these distinguished honors, the University seeks to recognize deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing individuals for exemplary service of all types to the deaf community. Individuals nominated for honorary degrees should have considerable achievement and have made notable contributions to the quality of life in the deaf community.

In addition to new nominations, the committee carefully reviews the files of individuals who have previously been nominated or been under consideration for nomination. Updated information about these individuals is welcomed and encouraged.

Eligibility requirements and nomination forms for each category of award, and a list of past recipients of honorary degrees between 1988 and 2008, are available at provost.gallaudet.edu/x3688.xml. ■

When it comes to advising Washington, D.C. officials about matters impacting people with disabilities, it is hard to find a better choice than an active member of both the Gallaudet and D.C. communities. Jon Mitchiner, director of Information Technology Services, offers both of these qualities, and has been appointed to serve on the D.C. Commission on Persons with Disabilities (previously the Mayor's Committee on Persons with Disabilities) beginning this summer. Mitchiner, along with six other appointees, was sworn in July 8 at the office of Mayor Adrian Fenty.

"I was thrilled when I found out that I was appointed to serve," Mitchiner said. Since moving to the District in



Miriam Richards, a graduate from the Department of Physical Education and Recreation, shared her experiences about scaling the highest geographical point of each state in the nation at a June 19 presentation in the Field House. In 1995, Richards plunged 1,000 feet from Mt. Hood in Oregon, sustaining multiple injuries. Despite the fall, and later being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, her determination made her succeed in her quest. In this snapshot, Richards stands at the 15,500 foot mark of Alaska's Mt. McKinley, also known as Denali. This was the final peak she conquered.

Roving Reporter

How high do you think gas prices will go over the next 12 months, and what have you been doing to deal with the price increases?



I don't even want to think about prices increasing. To combat the high prices, I rarely drive. I do a lot of walking or use public transportation.

Martelle Washington, student worker, Office of the President



Gas prices are already expensive, so I'm preparing for the worst. I'll start walking to work as I only live two blocks away. Whew!

Chrissy Moreno, admissions counselor, Office of Admissions



I believe the price of gas will go over \$5 per gallon soon because of the hurricane season. I have been walking or taking public transportation to work, and I only drive when necessary.

William Gardner, secretary, Office of Admissions

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98-342M

Academic Technology staff take a break during a July 2 cookout on Olmsted Green to congratulate co-workers who received service award plaques during the activity from Director Earl Parks (second row, fourth from right). They are (from left): Rosemary Bennett, captioner, 20 years, Adriana Canning, inventory/office assistant, five years, and Gary Brooks, production specialist, 10 years.



Ask Cousin Sally

I just want to know how much longer Gallaudet is giving 2 percent pay increases. From my understanding, this is done across the board, meaning every department on campus. Will there be no more increases of 3 percent and up? Or is this left totally up to the supervisors as to what they feel like giving you and not what you deserve and worked hard for?

2 Percent Blues

Dear 2 Percent,

Very good question! I do enjoy crunching some numbers now and then. Here's what I have learned from a little asking around: The amount of the general pay increase each year is recommended by the University Budget Committee (UBC)—not supervisors—and then approved or modified by the president. In recent years, this across-the-board increase has been either 2 percent or 3 percent.

In addition, Gallaudet has a performance-based merit increase system for faculty and staff. For many years, staff could receive merit increases that varied between 0 and 6 percent of their base salaries, with an average of 3 percent across the institution.

Given the challenges that the University faced in Fiscal Year (FY) 2008, in particular the lost tuition revenue (because fewer students enrolled), the range of merit increases was reduced to 0 to 4 percent with an average of 2 percent. Remember that this was on top of the 2 percent across-the-board general pay increase.

My sources made sure I understood that the University has never had a policy of awarding merit increases across the board. Instead, these increases have been based on an employee's level of contribution to the University and his or her yearly evaluation. That's where the hard work you mentioned comes in!

It's hard to say what the future of pay increases will be, but I can tell you that for FY 2009, the UBC has recommended that the total pay increase (general pay increase plus merit increase) should be limited to an average of 4 percent—if the president decides enough funding is available to support this level of increase. However, a lot remains to be determined, including enrollment numbers and the final federal appropriation figure, before a final decision is made about this.

Cousin Sally, OTG's resident retired dairy farmer and advice columnist, is waiting for your questions at cousin.sally@gallaudet.edu.

Summer Assessment Institute prepares for success

Orrville and Wilbur Wright are best known for launching the world's first successful flying machine. But they didn't stop there.

In the years following that 12-second flight, the Wright brothers collected and assessed aeronautical data, made adjustments, and continuously improved their aircraft. As anyone who has flown in an airplane recently knows, this process has brought the science of flight a long way.

Assessment is critical not only in science, but for the successful development of any endeavor. At Gallaudet, faculty and staff have been increasingly involved in collecting and analyzing data about student learning, making improvements, monitoring the results, and beginning the cycle once again. As part of Gallaudet's increased assessment efforts, the Office of Assessment and Innovative Programs created the Summer Assessment Institute, which went airborne in May.

"Faculty and staff did a tremendous job of identifying, assessing, and analyzing student learning data [in 2007-08]," said Eileen Matthews, executive director of Assessment and Innovative Programs. "In order to close the assessment loop, faculty and staff must make changes based on the data collected. The Summer Assessment Institute will be a time that some faculty work on making program, curriculum, and pedagogical changes."

Matthews' office accepted 18 project proposals from 15 departments and offices, including Business, Administration and Supervision, Art, First Year Experience, Social Work, Biology, the Career Center, and Interpretation. Each participant received a stipend, and they have now set to work. Funding for the projects came from the Office of the Provost, the Office of Assessment, and deans' offices.

Several faculty and staff members embarking on their summer projects recently shared their plans.

In the Department of Biology, faculty members Caroline Solomon and Ava Morrow are culturing four of the department's learning outcomes. During the 2007-08 school year, the department evaluated students' knowledge of biology concepts and how they communicated them. Both Dr. Solomon and Dr. Morrow will focus on completing the assessment cycle by analyzing these evaluations and making changes to the curriculum and/or teaching strategies to improve on weak areas.

Solomon will create assessment tools for 2008-09 to measure the outcome related to critical thinking skills—the skills students use to identify appropriate

questions or problems to be explored, use evidence, and construct arguments and conclusions. Morrow is focusing on another student outcome, one that she calls the "bridge" between knowledge and its applications on the job or in an advanced degree program. "One of the objectives of pursuing a college education is to obtain employment in one's chosen discipline," Morrow explained. "It is our goal to ensure that our students have the skills and knowledge to compete in the global community."

To determine how well student learning matches the department's curriculum expectations, Morrow wants students to establish and maintain a reflective portfolio during their internship. During the upcoming school year, these portfolios will help the biology faculty to assess students' preparation for future careers, awareness of their strengths and weaknesses, ability to work in a team, and understanding of professional and ethical behavior.

Art faculty are adding a new brush stroke to their curriculum with an admissions portfolio. Beginning in the next academic year, students will apply to major in art, and the pre-major courses will prepare them for this step. Art Department Chair Marguerite Glass, professor Tracey Salaway, and assistant professor Amy Stevens will standardize the syllabi for the pre-major courses and design an admissions portfolio packet. Reworked syllabi and clearly laid out criteria for the application—which will include the portfolio as well as a written application and recommendations—will add up to assessing and achieving an important learning outcome: The major will provide evidence of students' creativity, technical abilities, and critical thinking.

Dr. Madan Vasishta, professor in the Department of Administration and Supervision, is managing an assessment challenge for professors in his department as well as many others—class presentations. Presentations are a helpful teaching and evaluation tool, Vasishta said, but each student has a unique presentation style and covers a different topic. Grading, already a difficult art, can become even trickier in these situations. Vasishta's summer project will involve creating a rubric to evaluate class presentations across disciplines by a student's knowledge of the topic, clarity of communication, and other factors.

Another aspect of Vasishta's work is standardizing syllabi. Following guidelines laid out by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, Vasishta will help ensure that syllabi

across departments follow a similar format.

In First Year Experience (FYE), Interim Director Judith Termini is exploring writing assessment. She is responding to assessments that showed two of last fall's general studies classes—GSR 101 ("First Year Seminar" (FYS)) and GSR 102 ("English 102"), which were integrated for the first time—did not connect student writing performance to grades to the same degree. Both evaluated writing using the same rubric, but "English 102" put a greater weight on writing, while FYS grades were more influenced by other factors like class presentations and participation in discussion. "This makes sense," Termini said. "Writing instruction and assessment is what comes naturally to English instructors, while FYS folks have had to learn how to do it through Writing Enhanced Course (WEC) training." Training on use of the Gallaudet Writing Rubric was offered during the fall semester for instructors who volunteered to go.

To assure that all instructors are using the classes' writing components in the same way, Termini and colleague Maria Waters, faculty coordinator of FYE, worked with them starting in May to make this part of the fall curriculum. Leslie Rach, GSR assessment coordinator, will hold mandatory training on using the rubric beginning in August and continuing through the fall semester. Then they will reassess the connection of course grades and writing skill.

Termini, who describes herself as an "assessment person," is thrilled at the new opportunities to do what she is passionate about. "We're so pleased to take part in this effort," she said.

This is just a sampling of the projects undertaken during the Summer Assessment Institute. Matthews said that the community will have a chance to learn about each of the endeavors in the fall. ■

Campus Calendar

August

- 17—Arrival day for new international students, Honors students, and students with disabilities
- 20—Arrival day for all other FYE new students
- 21—Arrival day for visiting students
- 21-23—New Student Orientation
- 22—Annual Faculty and Staff BBQ, noon-4 p.m., Olmsted Green (rain location, Sixth Street Parking Garage)
- 24-25—Business registration
- 25—Fall classes begin

Clerc Center Happenings

New MSSD alumni present at GLOBE Environmental Conference in South Africa

Photo by Mary Ellsworth



MSSD and Indiana School for the Deaf (ISD) students and teachers were honored by a dinner with Koena Mashita and her extended family at her home in Daveyton Township in Johannesburg. The MSSD and ISD students and adults brought blankets as gifts for the host family, since winter nights in South Africa are very cold and the township houses are often drafty and poorly heated. Pictured (from left) are: back row—Justin Baldi, sign-language interpreter; Koena Mashita, hostess; Tyler Crace; “Gogo” (the Zulu word for Granny) Mahlangu; Mary Ellsworth; Ouma Motlau; Joshua Self; Lateefah Patterson; Jim Frenchik, sign language interpreter; Teresa Huckleberry; middle row—Ithumeleng Ntuli; Thabo Ntuli (holding a child); Kelsey Wessman (in front of flag); Michael Masango; and neighborhood children, who performed traditional dances for their American visitors.

By Susan M. Flanigan

Two members of MSSD’s Class of 2008 took literally their class speaker’s challenge to soar and aim higher: Lateefah Patterson and Kelsey Wessman boarded a plane for South Africa on June 20—the same day they were awarded their diplomas—with MSSD science teacher Mary Ellsworth and flew to Cape Town as part of the five-school U.S. delegation to the GLOBE Learning Expedition’s (GLE) 12th Annual Conference. GLOBE (Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment) is a worldwide primary and secondary school-based science and education program.

Patterson and Wessman teamed up with Indiana School for the Deaf (ISD) students Joshua Self and Tyler Crace and their science teacher, Teresa Huckleberry, to present the results of their collaborative research project, “A Comparison of Green Up in Two Locations at Similar Latitudes: Indiana and Washington, D.C.” Their project aimed to see if there was a difference in springtime budding of trees at the students’ two locations, and to investigate what environmental factors are controlling the timing of budding

(called budburst).

The GLE brought together over 400 student delegates from 51 countries around the world. The MSSD/ISD team gave a PowerPoint presentation about their research to an audience of scientists and student attendees. One special invited guest was Gallaudet alumna Wilma Newhoudt-Druchen, a member of the South African Parliament and the World Federation of the Deaf board, and her husband, Bruno. They met with the students after the presentation and commended them for their research and performance.

“The scientists made a real effort to connect with the students and were interested in sharing their own experiences of discovering science as a career,” said Ellsworth. “They wanted to know about our students’ career goals and future study plans.”

When all the presentations were completed, the students went on field explorations with GLOBE scientists to Cape Point and the Cape of Good Hope, as well as to the Tygerberg Nature Reserve and the Edith Stephens Wetland Park. At the conclusion of the GLE, the team went on to tour the Johannesburg area. They had an opportunity to experience a

game park; to visit cultural organizations supporting music, arts, and crafts as means for employment and career development; and to share an unforgettable dinner at the home of a South African family living in Daveyton Township that one student compared to a Thanksgiving feast. During their trip, the team posted a daily blog with descriptions, photos, and videoclips sharing their experiences at the conference and their tour afterward. (To view the MSSD/ISD blog, visit clercblog.gallaudet.edu/safrica/mssd_isd_science.html.)

“The week of the GLE was amazing,” said Patterson. “I mostly enjoyed going on the field trips because they involved more interactive activity through learning about South Africa’s conditions and about what causes global warming. I really appreciate that I have participated in the GLE because it has given me hope and understanding of possible ways to improve and create a better environment for the Earth.”

The people and the culture of South Africa made a deep impression on the team. Self expressed this in the blog when he wrote about meeting the children in Daveyton Township: “While they [the children] danced, I looked around to see what we were surrounded by [tin shack houses]. Through my eyes, I was sad, but all these people and children were making the best of what they had. Even though they seemed poor to me at first, I realized they were quite rich in the happiness of the music, in dancing and singing, and also in playing childhood games together.”

The team would like to express great appreciation to its supporters. U.S. GLOBE provided funding to send the students, a teacher, and an interpreter, as well as web support for the student blog on the GLOBE website. Gallaudet’s Provost Office and the Clerc Center’s Office of the Dean provided funding for Ellsworth and an interpreter, Justin Baldi, to accompany Patterson and Wessman. ISD raised funds to support their students for their week of extended travel after GLOBE. Dr. David Snyder, professor of chemistry and physics at Gallaudet, acted as official project sponsor, reviewed the students’ GLE applications, and supported their research activities. ■

How to...

make a work request

The Facilities Department keeps buildings and facilities running. This is a shared responsibility of the Facilities Administrative Office, Design and Construction Services, Custodial Services, Grounds Services, Maintenance Services, and Utilities Services.

Anyone on campus can enlist the help of these units by submitting a work request. Routine maintenance and repairs include fixing air conditioning and heating units; changing light bulbs; house-keeping in offices and classrooms; and correcting cracked sidewalks or potholes.

Facilities units can also perform some minor construction projects, depending on the size of the project and their work load at the time a request is made. For example, they can add lighting in classrooms or offices, reconfigure or remodel classroom or office space, or paint classrooms and public interior spaces. For these kinds of requests, departments are responsible for funding, and Facilities will provide a cost estimate. Requests for project work should be directed to the Service Center. If a job exceeds Facilities’ capabilities, Design and Construction Services may contract with an outside company to complete it.

Moves and furniture set-up can also be handled by Facilities through the Services Distribution Center. The center can satisfy small move requests and deliver surplus or newly received furniture or equipment. It can also provide limited on-site set-up for tables and chairs for campus parties and special events, outdoor athletic activities, and seminars. The center can assist with the rental of equipment or furniture from an outside vendor, although the department making request is responsible for all rental fees.

Note that the Services Distribution Center cannot transport equipment or furniture off campus, move copier machines or computer equipment, remove trash, or assemble or disassemble furniture or equipment.

Requests for moving should be sent 10 days in advance, if possible. Requests for assistance after regular work hours or on weekends will be charged overtime rates.

To place a work request, project request, or ask for a job estimate from a campus computer, go to www.af/intranet/facilities.xml. Click on “Work Request” and fill in the necessary information. You may also track your request on that same page. Alternatively, you can place a request by phone by calling x5181 (TTY/VP/voice) or emailing facilities@gallaudet.edu. Be sure to have your contact information and department billing code ready. ■

Gallaudet Fact—

Answer: C. Longest continually published student newspaper. *The Buff and Blue* began publication in 1892 and has never stopped.



Iwedi Ojinmah (third from left) an administrator with the organization Cybereagles, was on campus July 3 to present a check to Larry Musa (fourth from left), global education program specialist in the Office of International Programs and Services (OIPS) and winner of the first Cyber Eagles Yemi Tella Award. Cybereagles is a non-profit organization that shares information and hosts discussions about Nigerian soccer with the Nigerian community. The organization chose Musa as the recipient of the award, named for a renowned Nigerian soccer coach, for single-handedly opening The Duglu School for the Deaf in the spring of 2006 in his native Nigeria, as well as paying the school’s teacher a year’s salary. Also pictured are other supporters of Musa’s efforts to nurture the new school (from left): Tissa Peiris, culture and language instructor for the English Language Institute in OIPS; Bunmi Aina, director of the Keeping the Promise Program, who is coordinating fundraising efforts for the Duglu School; Hillary Allumaga, a recent Gallaudet graduate and a former education inspector with the Nasarawa State Ministry of Education, who is working with Musa to ensure the Duglu School’s success; and Beverly Buchanan, program manager for Campus Life and a former volunteer teacher of deaf children in Thailand through Voluntary Service Overseas, who will travel to the Duglu School in December to monitor its progress.